

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 1, 2, 6, 7, and 11-15 and ADD new claims 16 and 17 in accordance with the following:

1. (Currently Amended) A database search system including a computer for searching a database for data, comprising:

a unit for measuring an input number of search conditions input during a period from a start to an end of search processing;

a unit for determining that a problem occurs during the search processing when the input number measured at the end of the search processing exceeds a predetermined threshold value;

a unit for receiving an input of a message describing know-how information about a problem occurring during the search processing from a user, said know-how information being requested from a user when it is determined that the problem occurs in response to the input number measured at the end of the search processing exceeding a predetermined threshold value; and

a unit for storing the input message in a know-how database under a condition that the input message is associated with all the search conditions input during an execution period of the search processing.

2. (Currently Amended) The database search system according to claim 1, wherein during execution of the search processing, the search conditions input by the user are compared with search conditions stored in the know-how database every time the search conditions are received, and in a case where a predetermined number of one or more search conditions are matched with each other, the message associated with the search conditions stored in the know-how database is output to the user.

3. (Original) The database search system according to claim 1, wherein when the user inputs the message on know-how, another or a plurality of users to be provided with the message is specified, and the message is output only to the another or plurality of users.

4. (Original) The database search system according to claim 1, wherein the message is voice data storing uttered contents of the user.

5. (Original) The database search system according to claim 1, wherein when the user inputs the message on know-how, the search condition which is associated with know-how is selectable by the user from a plurality of the search conditions.

6. (Currently Amended) A database search system including a computer for searching a database for data, comprising:

a unit for measuring a necessary time taken from a start to an end of search processing;

a unit for determining that a problem occurs during the search processing when the necessary time measured at the end of the search processing exceeds a predetermined threshold value;

a unit for receiving an input of a message describing know-how information about a problem occurring during the search processing from a user, said know-how information being requested from a user when it is determined that the problem occurs in response to the necessary time measured at the end of the search processing exceeding a predetermined threshold value; and

a unit for storing the input message in a know-how database under a condition that the input message is associated with all the search conditions input during an execution period of the search processing.

7. (Currently Amended) The database search system according to claim 6, wherein during execution of the search processing, the search conditions input by the user are compared with search conditions stored in the know-how database every time the search conditions are

received, and in a case where a predetermined number of one or more search conditions are matched with each other, the message associated with the search conditions stored in the know-how database is output to the user.

8. (Original) The database search system according to claim 6, wherein when the user inputs the message on know-how, another or a plurality of users to be provided with the message is specified, and the message is output only to the another or plurality of users.

9. (Original) The database search system according to claim 6, wherein the message is voice data storing uttered contents of the user.

10. (Original) The database search system according to claim 6, wherein when the user inputs the message on know-how, the search condition which is associated with know-how is selectable by the user from a plurality of the search conditions.

11. (Currently Amended) A database search method for searching a database for data, comprising[[:]]:

measuring an input number of search conditions input during a period from a start to an end of search processing;

determining that a problem occurs during the search processing when the input number measured at the end of the search processing exceeds a predetermined threshold value;

receiving an input of a message describing know-how information about a problem occurring during the search processing from a user, said know-how information being requested from a user when it is determined that the problem occurs in response to the input number measured at the end of the search processing exceeding a predetermined threshold value; and

storing the input message in a know-how database under a condition that the input message is associated with all the search conditions input during an execution period of the search processing.

12. (Currently Amended) A database search method for searching a database for

data, comprising[[:]]:

measuring a necessary time taken from a start to an end of search processing;

determining that a problem occurs during the search processing when the necessary time measured at the end of the search processing exceeds a predetermined threshold value;

receiving an input of a message describing know-how information about a problem occurring during the search processing from a user, said know-how information being requested from a user ~~in response to the necessary time measured at the end of the search processing exceeding a predetermined threshold value~~ when it is determined that the problem occurs; and

storing the input message in a know-how database under a condition that the input message is associated with all the search conditions input during an execution period of the search processing.

13. (Currently Amended) A program product storing a computer-executable program for embodying a database search method for searching a database for data in a recording medium, the program comprising instructions for allowing a computer to execute the following operations of:

measuring an input number of search conditions input during a period from a start to an end of search processing;

determining that a problem occurs during the search processing when the input number measured at the end of the search processing exceeds a predetermined threshold value;

receiving an input of a message describing know-how information about a problem occurring during the search processing from a user, said know-how information being requested from a user when it is determined that the problem occurs ~~in response to the input number measured at the end of the search processing exceeding a predetermined threshold value~~; and

storing the input message in a know-how database under a condition that the input message is associated with all the search conditions input during an execution period of the search processing.

14. (Currently Amended) A program product storing a computer-executable program for embodying a database search method for searching a database for data in a recording medium, the program comprising instructions for allowing a computer to execute the following

operations of:

measuring a necessary time taken from a start to an end of search processing;

determining that a problem occurs during the search processing when the necessary time measured at the end of the search processing exceeds a predetermined threshold value;

receiving an input of a message describing know-how information about a problem occurring during the search processing from a user, said know-how information being requested from a user when it is determined that the problem occurs~~in response to the necessary time measured at the end of the search processing exceeding a predetermined threshold value;~~ and

storing the input message in a know-how database under a condition that the input message is associated with all the search conditions input during an execution period of the search processing.

15. (Currently Amended) A database search system for searching a database for data, comprising:

a unit for measuring an input number of search conditions input during a period of search processing; and

a unit for determining that a problem occurs during the search processing when the input number measured at the end of the search processing exceeds a predetermined threshold value;

a unit for receiving a message describing know-how information about a problem occurring during the search processing, said know-how information being requested from a user when it is determined that the problem occurs~~in response to the input number measured at the end of the search processing exceeding a threshold value and being stored in a database.~~

16. (New) The database search system of claim 1, wherein the end of the search processing is determined by detecting that an elapsed time after inputting a search condition is longer than a predetermined time.

17. (New) The database search system of claim 6, wherein the end of the search processing is determined by detecting that an elapsed time after inputting a search condition is longer than a predetermined time.